GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1567
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
REVISED NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Ajaya Kumar Shri S.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to revise the National Programme for Control of Blindness as reported in The Hindu dated 4 October, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up Vision Centres with necessary equipments across the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of financial assistance provided to various States to overcome blindness in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): The revised pattern of assistance for National Programme for Control of Blindness during the 11th Five Year Plan has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs(CCEA) in its meeting held on 3rd October, 2008. The main objectives of the programme are:

(a) to reduce the backlog of blindness through identification and treatment of blind;

(b) to develop Comprehensive Eye Care facilities in every district;

(c) to develop human resources for providing Eye Care Services;

(d) to improve quality of service delivery;

(e) to secure participation of Voluntary Organizations/Private Practitioners in eye Care;

(f) to enhance community awareness on eye care.

(c) & (d): In the revised scheme,it has been decided to set up 3000 Vision Centres with basic eye screening equipments catering to 50,000 population per centre in the country in the 11th Five Year Plan period.

(e): The details of financial assistance provided to various States to overcome blindness in the country during the year 2007-08 is Annexed.